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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/676,102	09/29/2000	Hong W. Wong	42390P9705	2227

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EXAMINER

DEBERADINIS, ROBERT L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2836

DATE MAILED: 03/27/2002

#5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
09/676,102

Applicant(s)  
HONG W. WONG

Examiner  
ROBERT L. DEBERADINIS

Art Unit  
2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Sep 29, 2000
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ 20) ☐ Other:

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by LIN 6,310,410.

Refer to figure 3. LIN discloses a connector having a first pin/socket (72) and a second pin/socket (74), the first pin/socket (72) being longer than the second/pin socket (74);

the first and second pins/sockets being coupled to an input terminal on the blade (80); and

a resistor (76) connected between the first pin/socket and the input power terminal.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 2-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over LIN 6,310,410 in view of TAKATA 5,796,185.

Regarding 2-12,15-19

LIN discloses a voltage source (16). LIN does not disclose a power converter or an enable function for a power converter. TAKATA discloses a power converter module (column 6, line 18) and an enabling function to enable the power signal (column 6, line 44).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of this invention to disable the power converter during hot swapping and to enable the converter when the blade is sensed, by pins/sockets, to be inserted properly, to protect the circuits on the blade.

Regarding claim 13.

Refer to TAKATA figure 1.

Regarding claims 14,20-24.

LIN discloses a digital signal processor based system (column 3, line 1). TAKATA discloses maintenance of sophisticated electronic systems. The hot swapping technique disclosed in the above references is not limited to any one type of system. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of this invention to provide a hot swapping system as disclosed by the above references to any system where there is a desire to service system faults without having to turn the system off.

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*Conclusion*

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. NIV 6,353,523 discloses a detector for electrical current and voltage for protection during hot-swap.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert L. DeBeradinis whose number is (703) 306-5857. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus, can be reached on (703) 308-3119. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-7724.

RLD

MARCH 21, 2002



KIM HUYNH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

3/24/02